

HAVE WE HIT A NERVE?

In the fall and spring Journals we posed a couple of topics that seemed to get a fair amount of attention from our readers. In the fall we asked your opinion about the stamping responsibilities for those professional engineers who work in the public sector. Then last spring we asked for your comments on whether the Board's interpretation and application of "direct supervision" was consistent with contemporary practice.

In both instances we received several comments expressing a wide variety of opinions on these topics. Because the comments received covered the full range of ideas, from strong support or objection to general ambivalence, the Board concluded that further discussion would be helpful toward their understanding of whether formal changes should be considered.

To that end we have scheduled a series of workshops around the state to give as many licensees as possible the opportunity to put their remarks before the board regardless of which side of the topics they stand. The workshops will occur in: Tacoma (LaQuinta Inn) on November 13th, Spokane (Airport Ramada Inn) on November 18th and Everett (Howard Johnson's) on November 20th. On each of these days we will have an open forum starting at 7:00pm where individuals may offer oral or written comments or just listen to the comments of others. In the event there is a large group of individuals who show up we may need to limit the amount of time for each presentation. However, everyone will be given the opportunity to express his or her opinions.

Topic A: "Practice of Engineering as a Government Reviewer"

(Should public sector PEs have the same stamping responsibilities as those in private practice?)

Topic B: "Signing and Stamping of Documents"

(Do you think the Washington Board's position of not permitting stamping of plans by a PE if they were not prepared by him/her, is appropriate?)

Topic C: "Cross-Border Credentials"

(The Board is studying the Canadian licensing model to help them determine if it would be appropriate to grant a license to a Canadian P.Eng. without further examinations.)

Topic D: "Open Forum"

(As time permits, we will have an open mic to cover whatever topics are of interest)

To assist us in the planning for these workshops we ask that you let us know if you plan to attend. All you need to do is send e-mail to engineers@dol.wa.gov

and let us know which date/location you prefer. Written comments can, of course, be provided at any time.

The Board has not established a timetable to make a decision so don't be concerned if you cannot attend on the dates now scheduled. Additional opportunities will be available.